UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/760
S/1995/961
16 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 54
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS
IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 16 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 16 November 1995, addressed to you by the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ravân FARHÂDI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 16 November 1995 from the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

You are no doubt aware, through the Special Mission to Afghanistan, of the politico-military situation in my country.

For more than a year, a new phenomenon, the so-called Taliban, has emerged as a new armed group on the Afghan scene. The continuous strengthening and further mobilization of this armed group by outside quarters, their linkage to foreign circles, their ambiguous ideology and agenda, which are clearly violating every norm and principle of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, have caused serious concern among the countries of the region as far as their far-reaching security and geo-political implications.

It is on the basis of the provision of paragraph 1 of Article 35 of the Charter of the United Nations that the Government of the Islamic State of Afghanistan finds it essential to draw your attention to the above situation.

The United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, in compliance with the mandate given by the General Assembly in operative paragraph 8 of its resolution 49/140 of 20 December 1994, has to present a detailed report on the situation in Afghanistan for consideration by the current session of the General Assembly.

It is an undeniable fact that the newly emerged military group of the so-called Taliban, as explained above, seems to possess the potential and capability of impeding the implementation of any peace process in the country (see S/1995/767).

The Islamic State of Afghanistan calls upon the head of the United Nations Special Mission to spell out in his report and presentation to the General Assembly of its current session, or as an annex to his report, his assessment on the following points, without which no thorough and constructive consideration and analysis of the Afghan situation can be anticipated (see S/1995/795):

1. Who are the Taliban?

   (a) How can they be recognized as a genuine Afghan movement and to what extent are they attached and connected to foreign quarters?

   (b) How and where are they recruited?

   (c) How are they armed and by whom?

   (d) How and where are they trained?

   (e) How are their movement and military actions financed?

   (f) Who is masterminding and instructing their military operations?

2. As to the Taliban's ideology and goals:

(a) What are their views on democracy?

(b) What are their views on human rights, the rights of women and, especially, the rights of women to education and work?

3. Concerning the Taliban and the peace process, what are their views on:

(a) A general cease-fire in the country?

(b) Inter-Afghan dialogue?

(c) Subsequent free elections in the country or the convening of a Grand Assembly (Loya Jirga)?

(d) A broad-based Government to be constituted in an administratively united country free from foreign intervention?

4. What is the Taliban's appreciation of the United Nations, its Special Mission to Afghanistan and its active participation in the peace process?

Responding to the above-mentioned questions is particularly pertinent and timely since the Taliban, on the basis of the following, constitute an element of danger to the peace and stability of the region.

(a) In the statements before the current session of the General Assembly, many heads of delegations of Member States, especially of the region, explicitly or implicitly expressed their concern about the interferences in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. It is well known that this interference is characterized by the creation and mobilization of the Taliban by some Pakistani official circles.

(b) With respect to a negotiated settlement and the idea of participating in a peaceful political process, this newly emerged band has never acknowledged or supported the peacemaking efforts of the United Nations. Their many declarations favouring a military solution to the Afghan problem are well known. This group possesses the capability of blocking any political process or causing sustained delay to it.

(c) The Taliban claimed at the outset that their goal is to clear roads and remove checkpoints, as well as to put an end to indiscriminate rocket attacks on the civilian population; now they are themselves subjecting the capital and its innocent inhabitants to food and fuel blockades. On numerous occasions, they have indiscriminately rocketed Kabul City (see A/50/748-S/1995/950). On 10 November 1995, they launched 170 rockets, killing 37 and wounding 52 Kabul civilians, mainly women and children.

(d) Ideologically, the manner and practice of this fanatic and obscurantist band, with an erroneous interpretation of the precepts of the holy religion of Islam in the territories under their control, have been totally

inconsistent with the spirit of Islam and against all accepted principles of human rights. Closure of girls' schools and preventing them to attend colleges, banning of females to work or even to teach in the primary schools, barring women from leaving the house, severing of arms and legs of those convicted of theft, with no consideration to relevant religious tenets, prohibiting sports, forbidding the use of television, closing theatres and cinemas and so on, all comprise the obscurantism of this band and bring about a serious threat to the human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country. The behaviour and ideology of this band negates the very purpose of every paragraph of General Assembly resolution 49/207 of 23 December 1994 on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan.

It is our earnest expectation that you will keep the world community informed of the existing chaotic situation in the areas under Taliban control and the threat posed by them to regional peace and stability.

Mindful of our national responsibilities, our loyalty to the Charter of the United Nations, our respect for the provisions of international instruments pertaining to the protection of human rights and as part of preventive diplomacy, we convey to the United Nations the above concerns as an early warning.

(Signed) Abdul Rahim GHAFOORZAI
Vice-Minister for
Foreign Affairs

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/761
S/1995/962
16 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 55
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 12 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the Nicosia flight information region and of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish air force.

On 14 November 1995, a formation of two RF-4 Turkish air force aerial reconnaissance aircraft flew all around the Cyprus coast from 1128 to 1218 hours, carrying out an aerial photographic reconnaissance of the entire coastal area of the Republic.

This latest violation of the Nicosia flight information region and of the Cyprus airspace, which shows clearly Turkey's contempt for international law, took place on the eve of the anniversary of the unilateral proclamation on 15 November 1983 by the Turkish Cypriot leadership, encouraged by the Turkish Government, of a secessionist entity in the part of Cyprus under the military occupation of Turkey. This proclamation was rejected unequivocally as illegal and invalid by the Security Council. By resolution 541 (1983) adopted by the Council on 18 November 1983, the Council condemned the secessionist entity, describing it as null and void and called for its immediate withdrawal.

Moreover, this latest violation took place while the Turkish occupation forces in Cyprus are illegally detaining a 19-year-old Greek Cypriot national guardsman who was abducted nearly two weeks ago and held secretly for five days before the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was notified about it.

Such developments only heighten tensions in Cyprus and constitute serious impediments to the efforts for achieving progress in the search for a solution to the Cyprus problem.

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On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly these unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and of the Republic's airspace by the Turkish air force aircraft, which violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council on the question of Cyprus. At the same time, such unauthorized intrusions, which are contrary to the rules of international civil aviation, jeopardize civil aviation safety in the area.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Permanent Representative

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/762
S/1995/963
17 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 55
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 16 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter dated 14 November 1995, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 14 November 1995 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 25 October 1995 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contains allegations regarding "violations of the airspace of the Republic" (A/50/688-S/1995/889 dated 26 October 1995).

Like all previous similar allegations of the Greek Cypriot administration, those contained in the said letter are unfounded and generated as part of the Greek Cypriot side's relentless campaign of defamation and propaganda directed against the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey. As these have been amply refuted in my previous communications addressed to you on this subject, most recently in my letter dated 6 October 1995 (A/50/529-S/1995/853 dated 9 October 1995), I will confine myself to reiterating that flights within the airspace of Northern Cyprus are with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, over which the Greek Cypriot usurpers of the seat of government have no jurisdiction or right of say.

It is ironic that the Greek Cypriot side, which protests against flights in the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, has most recently had Greek Air Force fighter planes fly over the south as part of the joint military manoeuvres with Greece code-named "Nikiforos 95", held in conjunction with a nautical and air force exercise (Toxotis-3) by Greece in the eastern Aegean, in the context of the so-called "joint defence dogma". It is clear that with these exercises, together with its massive campaign of militarization in the south, the Greek Cypriot side, with the full participation of Greece, is seeking venues and options other than the negotiating process to "settle" the Cyprus issue.

I wish to stress that the net result of this policy of escalation, coupled with the inflammatory rhetoric that the Greek and Greek Cypriot leaderships have been employing against our people, is the further deterioration of the relations between the two peoples in the island, undermining prospects for a negotiated solution through your mission of good offices.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1995/964
17 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 NOVEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UKRAINE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine dated 14 November 1995 concerning the signing of the basic agreement on the region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Anatoli M. ZLENKO
Permanent Representative of Ukraine
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine dated 14 November 1995 concerning the signing of the basic agreement on the region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine welcomes the agreement concerning the peaceful reintegration of the territory of Eastern Slavonia with Croatia (S/1995/951, annex), concluded on 12 November 1995 in Dayton, Ohio, United States of America, between the President of Serbia, Mr. S. Milosevic, and the President of Croatia, Mr. F. Tudjman.

Ukraine, which has frequently spoken out in favour of the need for a speedy resolution of the Yugoslav crisis on the basis of mutually acceptable formulas of reconciliation, considers the agreement to be an important step that substantially increases the chances of achieving a comprehensive peace in the whole territory of the former Yugoslavia.

In this connection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine urges the Serbian and Croatian parties to apply the maximum of effort to bring about the full and effective implementation of the provisions of the understandings reached. Ukraine also hopes that the resolution of this problem, which has adversely affected relations between the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, should open up a realistic path towards the process of mutual acknowledgement between the States comprising the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

Ukraine takes the view that the balanced and constructive position of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, backed by specific practical measures, raises the urgent question of the essential need to lift the Security Council sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, since that is an integral part of the process of a comprehensive peaceful settlement in the Balkans.